

0375966-10150

sending display screen information to a terminal connected via a communications line, the above described display screen information containing goods identified by information entered by a user via an ordering screen, and an input field for specifying whether the above described goods be collected.

Other features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

10

Brief Description of Drawings

FIG. 1 is a diagram illustrating the conventional flow of toner cartridges;

FIG. 2 is a diagram showing the flow of toner cartridges according to this embodiment;

FIG. 3 is a diagram showing an example configuration of a sales and collection system of toner cartridges;

FIG. 4 is a diagram showing an example of ordering sequence for toner cartridges;

FIG. 5 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal at the time of ordering toner cartridges;

FIG. 6 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal at the time of ordering toner cartridges;

FIG. 7 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal at the time of ordering toner cartridges;

FIG. 8 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal at the time of ordering toner cartridges;

FIG. 9 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal at the time of ordering toner cartridges;

FIG. 10 is a flowchart showing an example of order processing;

FIG. 11 is a flowchart showing an example of shipment processing based on order receipt information;

FIG. 12 is a flowchart showing an example of collection processing based on order receipt information;

FIG. 13 is a schematic diagram showing an example configuration of a laser beam printer;

FIG. 14 is a schematic diagram showing an example configuration of an ink-jet printer;

FIG. 15 is a block diagram showing a typical configuration of a computer;

FIG. 16 is a diagram showing a form of processing by a main server;

FIG. 17 is a diagram showing a form of generation processing of display screen information by the main server;

FIG. 18 is a diagram showing an example of screens displayed on the user's terminal;

FIG. 19 is a diagram showing a form of generation processing of display screen information by the main
5 server;

FIG. 20 is a diagram showing how information is stored and managed through collaboration between a shared DB and the main server;

FIG. 21 is a diagram showing a form of recycling
10 schedule information generated by the main server;

FIG. 22 is a diagram showing a form of main server processing; and

FIG. 23 is a diagram showing a form of recycling
15 schedule information generated by the main server.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

A sales and collection system of office consumables according to the present invention will be described in detail below with reference to the drawings. Incidentally,
20 although toner cartridges used for electrophotography-based printers, copiers, facsimile machines, and other machines, are cited as an example of office consumables in the description of embodiments, the present invention can be applied to other types of goods, which include, for
25 example, copier toners, consumable parts, paper or OHP sheets, ink-jet printer ink, etc. Here, the term "consumable parts" means parts expended in a shorter period

0075968-101001